

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that there is a proposal before the FCC to sell WMFE, the Orlando, Florida, affiliate of PBS, the Public Broadcasting System, to Daystar, a religious broadcaster, and that if this sale is approved and goes through, Orlando will then have four religious television outlets.

Ours is a secular nation, founded firmly on the principle of separation of church and state. It seems to me, as I believe it must to any reasonable person, that three religious television outlets in one market is a more-than-sufficient number.

PBS provides a cornucopia of intellectually challenging and educational viewing. Shows such as "Sesame Street" are wonderful for children, and "Nova" never fails to stimulate thought. Losing PBS and its many high-quality programs would cause irreparable harm to the Orlando community, as it would to any other community in the United States.

I appreciate that WMFE may have suffered economic hardships in recent times, as have we all. However, some things simply must not be sacrificed, and PBS is one of them. To bump PBS's programming in order to present a religiously doctrinaire point of view will do the people of Orlando, and by extension their fellow Americans, a tremendous disservice.

Please do not approve this proposed sale.